

**QUIMPER CLUB INTERNATIONAL
ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING
PHILADELPHIA
SEPTEMBER 21, 2019**

Patricia Hull, President, called the meeting to order at 10:15 am, welcoming all to this meeting being held at the home of hosts, Helen and John Horstmann. Due to our difficulties with the Sofitel, a meeting at the hotel was not possible. The Horstmann's treated the club to a full day in their home, plus a complimentary catered luncheon and dinner.

Secretary's report: Minutes from 2018 business meeting were not read as everyone has received copies online, but they were approved. We have a total of 133 members down from 184 last year. We were still receiving new and renewing members. New members this year include: Becky Clark, Patricia Edwards, Ilga Elizy, Sorelle Fitzgerald, Dana Goulart, Linda Goynes, Thomas Gray and Donna Laski. Returning (lapsed) members this year are: Phyllis Turner, Dan and Debbie Yonkers, True Mann, and Emily Wagner. Welcome all! The current membership list was circulated for additions, corrections and changes.

Treasurer's report: Suzanne Vallerand was unable to be with us, so Patricia Hull presented a brief treasurer's report and handed out a spread sheet (prepared by Suzanne) showing a comparison of our financial reports over the past three years (as of August 30, 2019). Our income was less this year due to the attrition of members. In addition, we have credit card and PayPal fees, which cut into our cash on hand. She is recommending we discontinue using credit cards for renewals as the fees are higher than PayPal. We only produced one journal this year as the costs have become prohibitive. (More about the journal later)

Lucy gave a report on her progress with the website. It has been upgraded and she has personally paid her grandson to check out the glitches and to make it more user friendly. Journal articles are now being published on the website, which is a saving as we do not have to pay for layout and can show as many photos as wanted. Laverne Conway's article, for example has 136 photos!

We reported that Carolyn Mann has had a stroke so that is why she is unable to be with us today. We all signed a card for her.

New Business:

1. Issue with Sofitel- there was a misunderstanding on the contract between the definition of 50 people versus 50 rooms, which was not caught. Due to this the Sofitel took money out of our bank account, unbeknownst to us. They had been given our debit card number for deposits. They also took the money we had deposited for food and applied it to the hotel bill. Basically, at this point the club is insolvent.
2. We addressed how the club should go forward, including reincorporating under a different name, tax ID and new bank account. We could also have a smaller board and have an online membership, with small yearly dues to maintain the website. We could keep a data base online as well.
3. One of the members stated that we need to inform our insurance company that we have had an "incident". Our insurance is current.
4. Continued discussion of where we should go from here, as we currently have no volunteers to take the vacating board positions. No officers equals no club. Even an online club would need someone to do take oversee the club and collect the monies. Lucy will ask the webmaster to give us an estimate of the cost of maintaining an online club. We could still do meetings, but all the arrangements would be made individually. In other words, no contracts with hotels.
5. That said, we had a presentation of the 2020 meeting in Coconut Grove, Florida, which is the oldest section of Miami, by Karen Davis. Dates are November 5- 8th, which is outside of hurricane season. Trudi Epstein has been working on this as well. Karen will bring her up to date. There are two old hotels next to each other where we can stay without doing a contract. A dinner boat cruise has been suggested as well as a tour of the Quimper collection at Vizcaya. We also could go to Coral Gables to visit the University of Miami. We would obtain and pay for our own hotel rooms, but money would have to be deposited up front for the cruise and other tours.

Meeting Adjourned at 12:25 pm.

Sherry Lohnes
Secretary

Patricia Hull
President